

State of California  
California Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Santa Ana Region

STAFF REPORT

December 6, 2013

**ITEM: 13**

**SUBJECT:** Santa Ana Regional Board's 2014 Priorities for Inclusion in the Water Boards  
2013 Accomplishments Report

Discussion:

The State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) in collaboration with the regional water boards (collectively the Water Boards) prepares a "California Water Boards Accomplishments Report" (Accomplishments Report) for each year. The latest (2012) Accomplishments Report is available at:

[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/publications\\_forms/publications/general/docs/accomplishments\\_report2012.pdf](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/publications_forms/publications/general/docs/accomplishments_report2012.pdf)

The Accomplishments Report includes some of the noteworthy accomplishments of all the Water Boards, including the State Board, from the prior year and it includes a list of priorities for the coming year for each region and the State Board. The 2012 Accomplishments Report included five of the Santa Ana Regional Water Board's (Regional Board) accomplishments from 2012. Since it is a comprehensive report provided to the public for information about a wide array of activities of the Water Boards, it embodies most activities of the Water Boards such as: Policy and Planning; Wastewater Management; Stormwater Management; Non-point Source Programs; Surface Water Restoration; Groundwater Protection and Cleanup; Sacramento/San-Joaquin Delta; Financial Assistance; Enforcement; Data Accessibility and Enhancement and Water Rights. Because of the broad nature of the Report, only a few projects from each region and the State Board are showcased in the Report.

Each year, the State Board solicits information on the current year's accomplishments and the coming year's priorities from the Water Boards. On October 21, 2013, Regional Board staff provided preliminary information on 2013 accomplishments and its priorities for 2014 to the State Board. The following accomplishments were included in our October 21, 2013 submittal to the State Board:

1. Adoption of General Dairy Permit
2. Settlement Regarding Perchlorate Contamination at the Stonehurst Site in Rialto
3. Adoption of General Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) for In-Situ Remediation of Groundwater within the Santa Ana Region
4. Focused Training for Scrap Metal Permittees within the Region
5. Approval of Best Management Practices (BMPs) to Implement Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs).

The Executive Management team at the State Board reviews the preliminary submittals from the Water Boards and selects a few projects for inclusion in the Accomplishments Report. On November 18, 2013, Regional Board staff was informed by State Board staff that two of our projects (No. 1 and 3 in the above list) have been selected for inclusion in the overall 2013 Accomplishments Report.

As noted above, the Accomplishments Report also includes a list of priority projects that are expected to be completed in the coming calendar year. The following projects were included in our 2014 priorities list:

1. Renew the Areawide Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System NPDES Permit for Orange County.
2. Develop and adopt a conditional waiver of waste discharge requirements for agricultural dischargers to manage non-point source pollution from irrigated farming operations, and from livestock operations that are not subject to the Region's NPDES CAFO permit, in the San Jacinto River watershed.
3. Develop copper TMDLs for Newport Bay to address copper (largely from antifouling boat paint).
4. Update the Salt Management Plan (total dissolved solids/Nitrate-nitrogen) for the Beaumont Management Zone.
5. Review, comment and present to the Board for adoption the Watershed Action Plans developed by Riverside and San Bernardino County MS4 Permittees.
6. Develop selenium TMDLs for San Diego Creek/Newport Bay Watershed.

The priorities included in the above list are not an all-inclusive list of the projects that Regional Board staff will be engaged in during 2014. It represents a selected sub-set of the projects that are expected to be completed during the calendar year. It does not include multi-year projects, enforcement actions, inspections and report reviews, other routine NPDES permit renewals, updates of Waste Discharge Requirements, ongoing Basin Planning efforts, other TMDL development and implementation activities, underground storage tank-related activities, site cleanup activities, Department of Defense facilities cleanup activities, landfill-related activities, etc. Most of these activities are addressed through program workplans and performance targets. Each year the State Board, in collaboration with the regional boards, develops the workplans and the performance targets for these activities of the Water Boards.

The six 2014 priorities listed above are projects that are considered significant because of the broad applicability of the proposed actions and the controversy they are expected to generate. Significant staff resources will be utilized to carry out the proposed activities related to these projects and Regional Board staff expects to submit these projects for the Board's consideration during various Board meetings in 2014.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

This is provided to the Board for information purposes only.